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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/924,055	08/08/2001	Kenji Morita	041465-5115	6163

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EXAMINER

NATNAEL, PAULOS M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2614

DATE MAILED: 01/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/924,055

Applicant(s)

MORITA ET AL.

Examiner

Paulos M. Natnael

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otsuki, U.S. Patent No. 5,847,685.

Considering claim 1, a display control apparatus comprising:

a) an opening device for placing a display device received in a receiving device in an active state thereof, is met by the opening or groove where the screen TV monitor 33 is raised to from its horizontal position, fig. 14

b) a detection device for detecting whether or not the display device is placed in the active state, is met by the disclosure that "the rising angle of the TV monitor 33 can be detected by, for example, attaching a photosensor (sensor member) 55 to the movable bracket 22 as shown in Figs. 9 or 11..." (see col. 11, lines 35-38)

except for;

c) an output device for, when it is detected that the display device has been placed in the active state, outputting a video signal to be displayed on the display device to the

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display device so that the display to device starts to display video based on the video signal.

Regarding c), Otsuki does not specifically disclose outputting a video signal depending on the detection of the raised position of the TV monitor 33. However, Otsuki is clear in that it discloses "a controller (not shown) for determining to which one of the reflecting members 53 the photosensor is facing. Accordingly, by outputting a control signal to stop operation of the motor 49 from the controller based on the input signal from the photosensor 5, the TV monitor 33 can be automatically set to any desired rising angle." (col. 12, lines 47-51) Therefore, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Otsuki by providing a method of controlling the photosensor by outputting a control signal for outputting the video or image to the display only when the monitor 33 is fully raised in its viewing position, in order to minimize the viewer's missing the start or end of the video or image display.

Considering claim 2, see rejection of claim 1;

Considering claim 3, the display control apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the active state is a state at which the display device is placed so that the video displayed on the display device is visible, is met by the raised position of the monitor 33, fig. 14;

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Considering claim 4, a display control method comprising the steps of: placing a display device received in a receiving device in an active state thereof; detecting whether or not the display device is placed in the active state; and outputting, when it is detected that the display device has been placed in the active state, a video signal to be displayed on the display device to the display device so that the display device starts to display video based on the video signal.

Claim 4 is a method claim of claim 1 and as such claim 4 is rejected for the same reasons as in claim 1.

Considering claim 5, a display control method comprising the steps of: detecting whether or not display of all video has been completed by display device under an active state; and controllably receiving the display device in a receiving device so as to be placed in an inactive state from the active state, when it is detected that the display of all video has been completed.

Claim 5 is a method claim of claim 2 and as such claim 5 is rejected for the same reasons as in claim 2.

Considering claim 6, the display control method of claim 4 or 5, wherein the active state is a state at which the display device is placed so that the video displayed on the display device is visible;

See rejection of claim 3;

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Considering claim 7,

- a) an opening device for placing a display device received in a receiving device in an active state;
- b) a detection device for detecting whether or not the display device is placed in the active state; and
- c) an output device for, when it is detected that the display device has been placed in the active state, outputting a video signal to be displayed on the display device to the display device so that the display device starts to display video based on the video signal.

Regarding claim 7, see rejection of claim 1.

Considering claim 8, a detection device for detecting whether or not display of all video has been completed by a display device to display the video under an active state; and a receiving control device for controllably receiving the display device in a receiving device so as to be placed in an inactive state from the active state, when it is detected that the display of all video has been completed.

Regarding claim 8, see rejection of claim 2.

As for claim 9, see rejection of claim 3;

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Rosen, U.S. Pat. No. 5,996,954 discloses using a sensor to detect when the support arm is in stowed position.

Mola, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,125,030 disclose a vehicle overhead console with flip down navigation unit.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paulos M. Natnael whose telephone number is (703) 305-0019. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PMN
January 25, 2005



PAULOS M. NATNAEL
PATENT EXAMINER